



Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.
Agency Secretary

State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Financial Assistance

1001 I Street • Sacramento, California 95814
P.O. Box 944212 • Sacramento, California • 94244-2120
(916) 341-5700 • FAX (916) 341-5707 <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov>



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

NOTICE OF A PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF THE POLICY FOR IMPLEMENTING THE STATE REVOLVING FUND FOR CONSTRUCTION OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

This announcement is to inform interested and affected parties of the Division of Financial Assistance's (Division) proposal to amend the *Policy for Implementing the State Revolving Fund for Construction of Wastewater Treatment Facilities* (SRF Policy).

The SRF Policy was adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) on August 18, 1988, and last amended on January 22, 2003. The SRF Loan Program provides low-interest loans for the construction of publicly-owned wastewater treatment and water recycling facilities, correction of nonpoint source and storm water drainage pollution problems, and implementation of estuary enhancement activities.

The State Water Board has declared sustainability of water resources to be one of its core values (State Water Board Resolution No. 2005-0006). The proposed amendments to the SRF Policy are intended to integrate the concept of sustainability into the SRF Policy consistent with the State Water Board's declaration. The amendments will help the SRF Loan Program continue to support water quality improvement projects while working to avoid unintended or poorly planned growth that will have a detrimental effect on water quality or quantity.

The amendments to the SRF Policy are excerpted on Exhibit A attached to this notice. Four definitions will be added to the SRF Policy. In addition, two subsections will be added to Section IX, PLANNING REQUIREMENTS, of the SRF Policy.

As well as the additions proposed for the SRF Policy itself, the Division intends in the future to expand existing eligibility criteria on the eligibility of costs associated with replacing paving that is disturbed during installation of sewer collection systems. In the past eligibility has been limited to the cost of replacing the paving one-foot on either side of the trench width. The Division intends to expand the eligibility of replacing pavement so that agencies have the option of replacing the paving over the entire street width with permeable paving if the paving is disturbed during the installation of sewer collection pipes. This will provide an opportunity for local agencies to decrease urban runoff to surface water bodies.

The Division intends to present this issue to the State Water Board for discussion on September 7, 2005, at the Board's regular Workshop. The issue will then be presented to the State Water Board for its approval on September 22, 2005, at the Board's regular Meeting.

TO TESTIFY

You may submit written comments and give oral statements regarding the proposed amendment to the SRF Policy. Written comments should be submitted as early as possible to allow for thorough staff analysis. All comments are due by 5:00 p.m. on August 30, 2005; comments should be directed to:

Ms. Debbie Irvin, State Water Board
1001 "I" Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
FAX: (916) 341-5620
email: dirvin@waterboards.ca.gov.

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

All visitors are required to sign in and receive a badge prior to attending any meeting in the building. The Visitor and Environmental Services Center is located just inside and to the left of the Cal/EPA Building's public entrance. Valid picture identification may be required due to the security level. Please allow up to 15 minutes for this process. Public parking is available in the City of Sacramento Garage on I Street between 10th and 11th Streets. Metered parking spaces are available on area streets. The Cal/EPA building is accessible by bus and light rail lines operated by Sacramento Regional Transit. The Cal/EPA building Hearing Rooms are accessible to persons with disabilities.

CONTACT PERSON

Any questions regarding this issue should be directed to Ms. Jule Rizzardo at (916) 341-5822 or jrizzardo@waterboards.ca.gov. Individuals who require special accommodation are requested to contact Mr. Adrian Perez at (916) 341-5880 or Aperez@waterboards.ca.gov prior to the meeting date. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Debbie Irvin
Clerk to the Board

Date: **July 27, 2005**



EXHIBIT A PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE SRF POLICY

The following new definitions are proposed for Section III, Definitions. The definitions section will be re-lettered accordingly.

“Infill” means new development and redevelopment within the existing developed footprint of a community, either on vacant land or on previously developed, underutilized land.

“Land Use Element” is one of the seven mandatory elements of a General Plan required by Government Code Section 65302.

“Housing Element” is one of the seven mandatory elements of a General Plan required by Government Code Section 65302.

“Sustainability” means balancing economic, environmental, and social factors to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs .

The following new text is proposed for Section IX.A, Project Report:

- 11. A description of how the applicant’s project addresses each of the state planning priorities defined in Section 65041.1 of the Government Code. The state planning priorities are intended to promote equity, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and promote public health and safety in the state, including in urban, suburban, and rural communities. Applicants should use the most recent state planning priorities either in the above-cited Section, or its successors if modified at any time in the future. The state planning priorities as of the date of adoption of this Policy, are as follows:**
 - a. To promote infill development and equity by rehabilitating, maintaining, and improving existing infrastructure that supports infill development and appropriate reuse and redevelopment of previously developed, underutilized land that is presently served by transit, streets, water, sewer, and other essential services, particularly in underserved areas, and to preserving cultural and historic resources.**
 - b. To protect environmental and agricultural resources by protecting, preserving, and enhancing the state’s most valuable natural resources, including working landscapes such as farm, range, and forest lands, natural lands such as wetlands, watersheds, wildlife habitats, and other wildlands, recreation lands such as parks, trails, greenbelts, and other open space, and landscapes with locally unique features and areas identified by the state as deserving special protection.**

EXHIBIT A
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE SRF POLICY

- c. To encourage efficient development patterns by ensuring that any infrastructure associated with development that is not infill supports new development that uses land efficiently, is built adjacent to existing developed areas to the extent consistent with the priorities specified pursuant to subdivision (b), in an area appropriately planned for growth, is served by adequate transportation and other essential utilities and services, and minimizes ongoing costs to taxpayers.**

The following new text is proposed for Section IX.D, General Planning. The trailing subsections in Section IX will be renumbered accordingly.

D. General Planning

The SWRCB will not give facilities plan approval for a project until the authorized representative has certified that the applicant has adopted the “land use” and “housing” elements of its General Plan and that the project is consistent with the adopted land use and housing elements.

If the applicant is not responsible for adopting the General Plan, then the authorized representative would have to certify that at least seventy-five (75) percent of its service area is covered by adopted land use and housing elements and that its project is consistent with those adopted land use and housing elements.